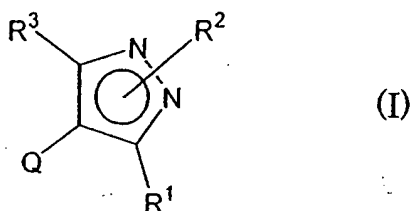


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A substituted pyrazole compound represented by the following formula, or a salt thereof,



wherein:

R¹ represents -CO-B¹-A-Y

in which B¹ is -N(R⁴)- (in which R⁴ is a hydrogen atom or a lower alkyl group), A is a lower alkylene group, Y is an aryl group which may optionally be substituted by halogen, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, amino or nitro, a cycloalkyl group or a heteroaryl group;

R² represents a hydrogen atom, a lower alkyl group which may optionally be substituted by hydroxyl, amino or mono- or di- (lower alkyl)amino, or an aralkyl group and is attached to one of the ring nitrogens;

R³ represents a phenyl group which may optionally be substituted by halogen, trifluoromethyl or lower alkylendioxy, or a pyridyl group; and

Q represents a pyridyl group.

2. (Original) The substituted pyrazole compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 wherein A is -CH₂- or -CH(CH₃)-.

3. (Currently Amended) The substituted pyrazole compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 wherein Y is an unsubstituted phenyl group; a phenyl group substituted by 1 or 2 substituents selected from halogen or lower alkyl; or a monocyclic unsaturated heterocyclic

group which contains 1 or 2 nitrogen ~~atom~~ atoms and which comprises a five- or six-membered ring.

4. (Original) The substituted pyrazole compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 3 wherein Y is a phenyl group, a 2-chlorophenyl group, a 2-methoxyphenyl group, a 4-methoxyphenyl group or a 2-pyridyl group.

5. (Original) The substituted pyrazole compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 wherein R⁴ is a hydrogen atom, a methyl group or an ethyl group.

6. (Original) The substituted pyrazole compound or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 wherein R² is a hydrogen atom, a methyl group, an ethyl group or a 2-hydroxyethyl group.

7. (Original) The substituted pyrazole compound or salt thereof as claimed in claim 1 wherein R³ is a 4-fluorophenyl group.

8. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an effective amount of a substituted pyrazole compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof as claimed in claim 1, and a pharmaceutically acceptable additive.

9. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8, for inhibiting a p38MAP kinase.

10. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 8, for the treatment of tumor necrosis factor α -related diseases, interleukin 1-related diseases, interleukin 6-related diseases and cyclooxygenase II-related diseases.

11. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 10 wherein the ~~tumor necrosis factor α -related diseases, interleukin 1-related diseases, interleukin 6-related diseases or cyclooxygenase II-related diseases~~ include are rheumatoid arthritis and IBD. ; ~~multiple sclerosis, osteoarthritis, psoriasis, HIV, asthma, septic shock, IBD, Crohn's disease, Alzheimer's disease, diabetes, cachexia, osteoporosis, graft versus host disease, adult RDS, arteriosclerosis, gout, glomerulonephritis, congestive heart failure, ulcerative colitis, sepsis, cerebral malaria, restenosis, hepatitis, SLE, thrombosis, bone resorption disease, chronic pulmonary inflammation disease, cardiac reperfusion injury, renal reperfusion injury, cancer, Reiter's syndrome, preterm labor, eczema, allograft rejection, stroke, Behçet's disease, neuralgia, meningitis, sunburn, contact dermatitis, acute synovitis, apendylitis, muscle degeneration, angiogenesis, conjunctivitis, psoriatic arthritis, viral myocarditis, pancreatitis, glioblastoma, bleeding, joint inflammation, endotoxic shock, parasitic infections, tuberculosis, myocardial infarction, leprosy, diabetic retinopathy, IBS, transplant rejection, burns, bronchitis, ischemic heart diseases, eclampsia, pneumonia, remission of swelling, low back pain, laryngopharyngitis, Kawasaki disease, myelopathy or atopic dermatitis.~~